

Violence and Injury Prevention Unit

401 Fifth Avenue, Suite 900
Seattle, WA 98104-1818

206-263-8160 Fax 206-296-0208

TTY Relay: 711

www.kingcounty.gov/health

King County Preventable Drowning Deaths, 2010-2014

Table 1. Characteristics of preventable drowning deaths in King County, 2010-2014

Unintentional Drownings: 2010-2014 Five-year total		92 Cases
	Average	18.4 cases
	Range	13 (2010), 24 (2012)
Sex of Decedent		
	Male	67.4%
	Female	32.6%
Age of Decedent		
	0-4	2.2%
	5-14	0.0%
	15-24	19.6%
	25-44	27.2%
	45-64	28.3%
	≥ 65	22.8%
Race/Ethnicity		
	Caucasian	70.7%
	Asian/Asian-American/Pacific Islander	9.8%
	African American/African/West Indian	9.8%
	American Indian/Alaska Native	3.3%
	Latino Hispanic	5.4%
	Multiracial/Other	0.0%
	Unknown	1.1%
Known immigrant, Foreign Visitor, Non-English Speaker, or Child of Immigrant Parents		9.8%
Location of Incident		
	Seattle	42.4%
	North and East King County	25.0%
	South King County	32.6%
Drugs and/or Alcohol Involved		
	Alcohol and/or other drugs	54.3%
Type of Water		
	Open Water	55.4%
	Private Pool, Spa, Hot Tub, or Bathtub	41.3%
	Regulated Facility	3.3%
	Other	0.0%

This information is courtesy of Dr. Richard Harruff and Greg Hewett, Public Health-Seattle & King County (PHSKC), Prevention Division, King County Medical Examiner's Office.

PHSKC – Injury Prevention staff completed this summary. This summary includes (only):

- Cases where the incident occurred in King County
- Cases that the Medical Examiner ruled “accidental”
- Cases the Medical Examiner ruled “undetermined” but have obvious preventable circumstances and no evidence of suicide or homicide

Figure 1. Number of preventable drowning deaths, King County 2010-2014

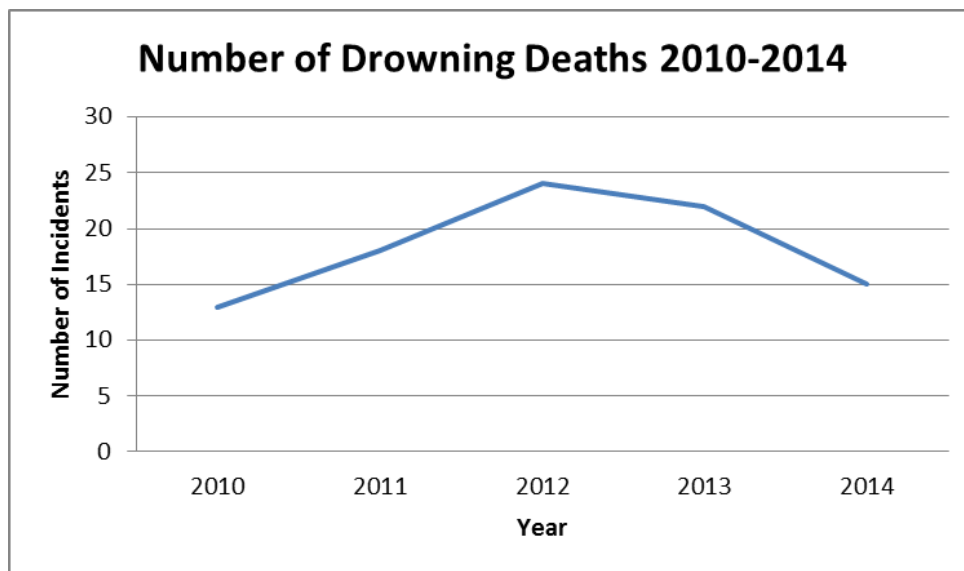


Figure 2. Age at preventable drowning death, King County, 2010-2014

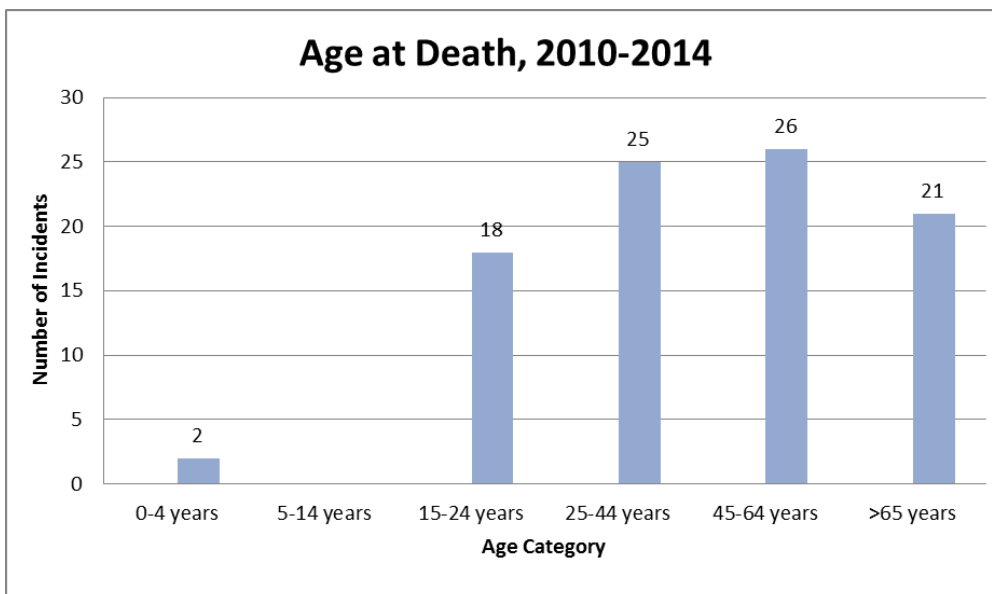


Figure 3. Site of preventable drowning death, King County, 2010-2014

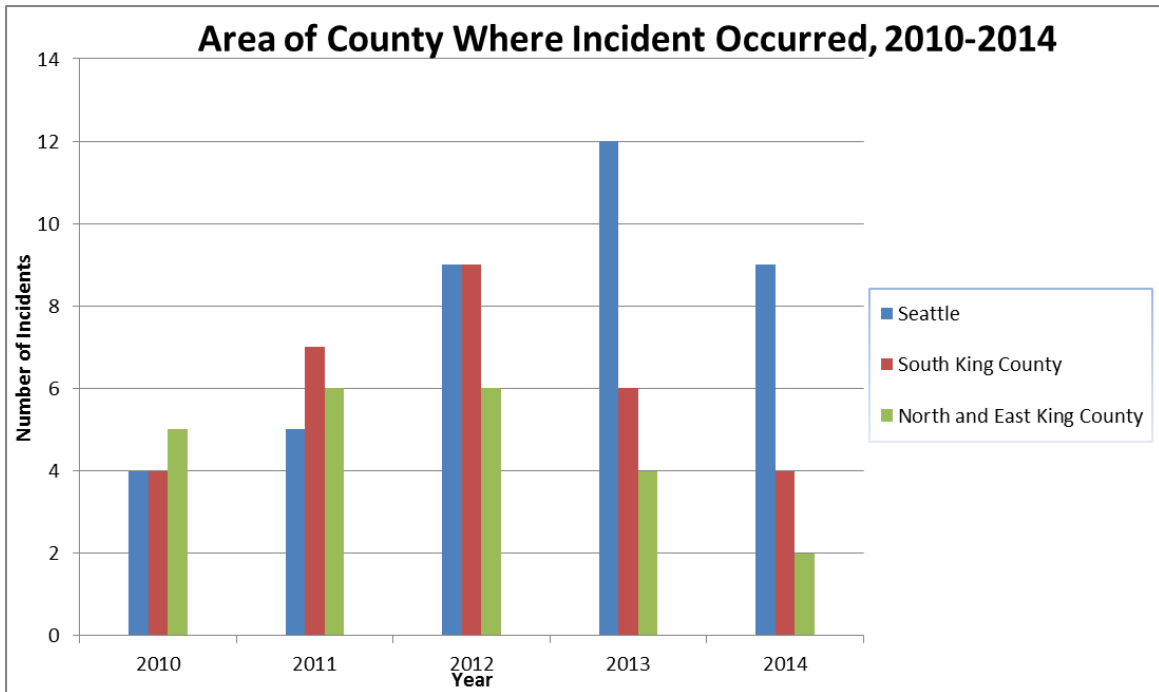


Figure 4. Month of preventable drowning death, King County, 2010-2014

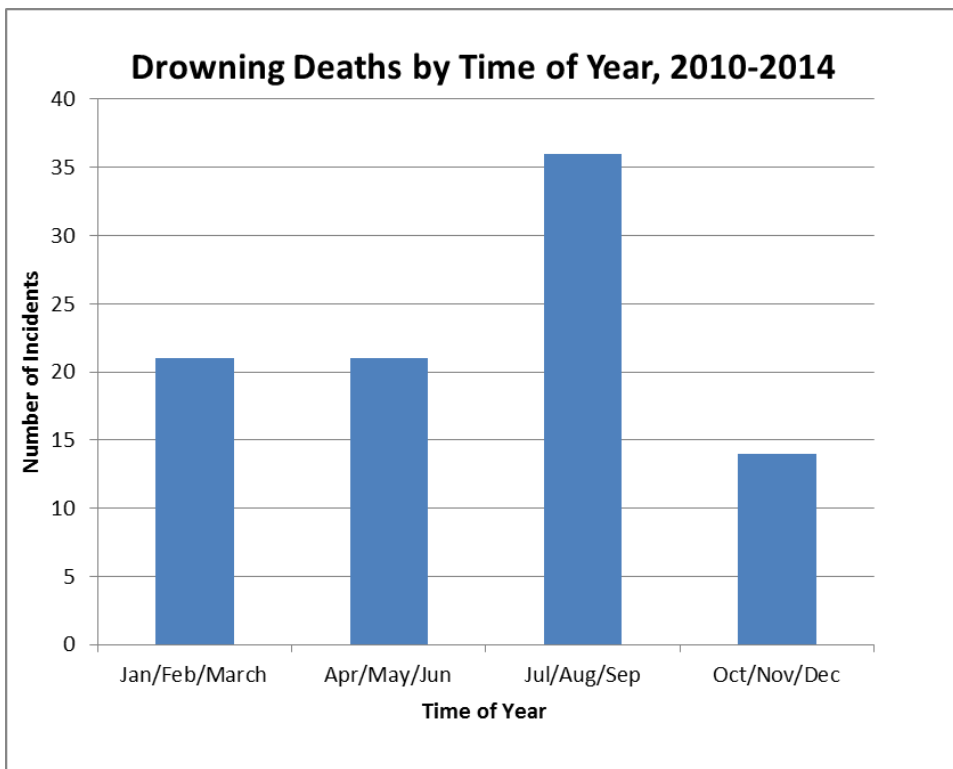


Figure 5. Day of the Week of preventable drowning death, King County, 2010-2014

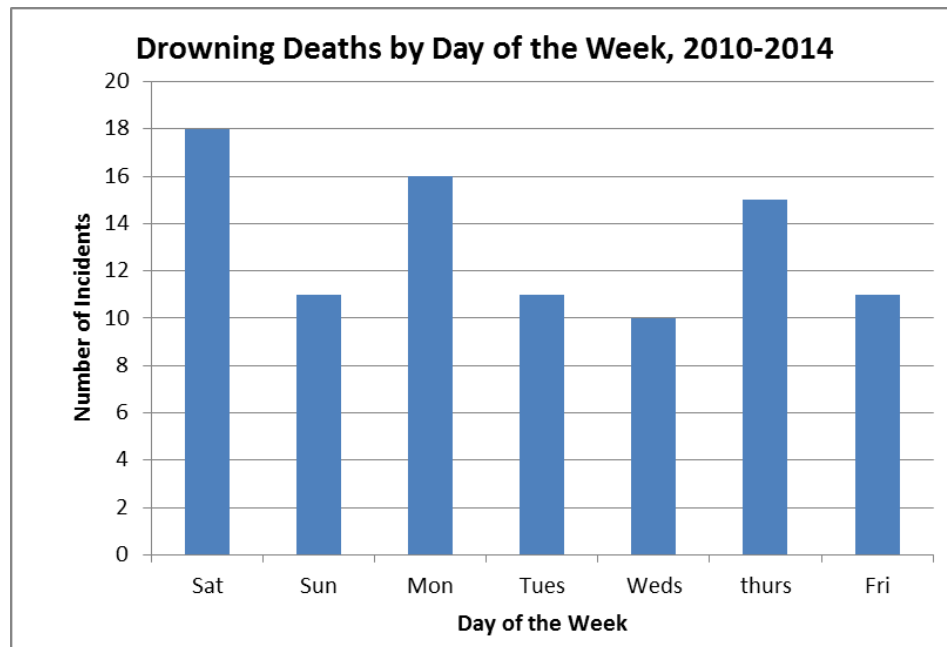


Figure 6. Time of day of preventable drowning death, King County, 2010-2014

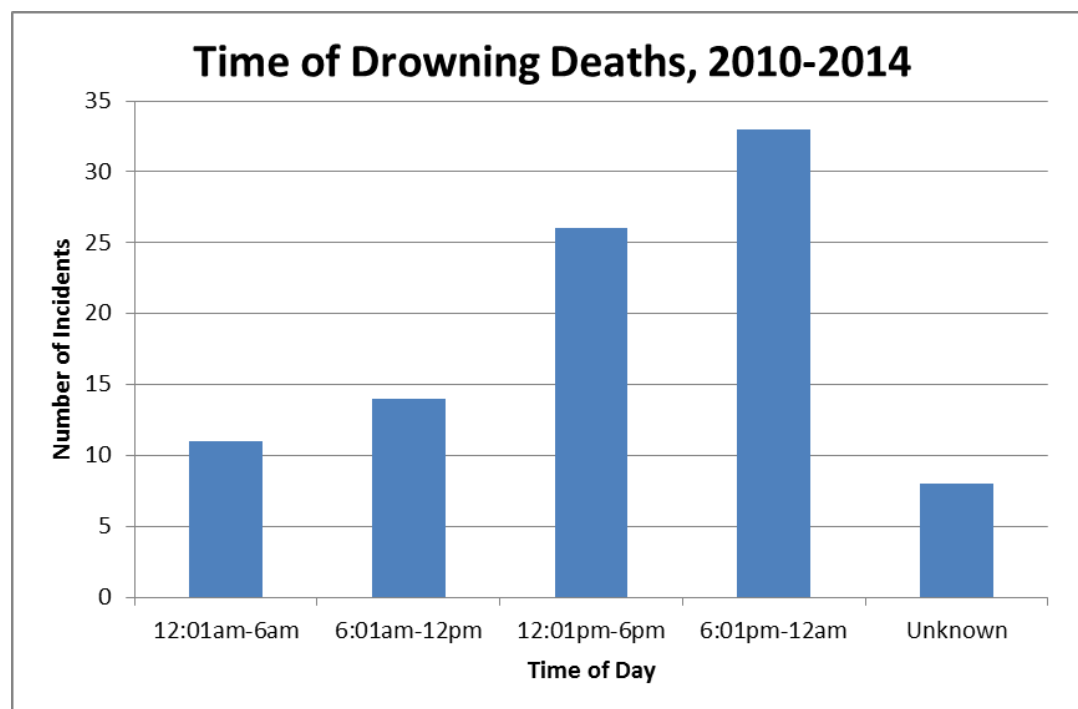
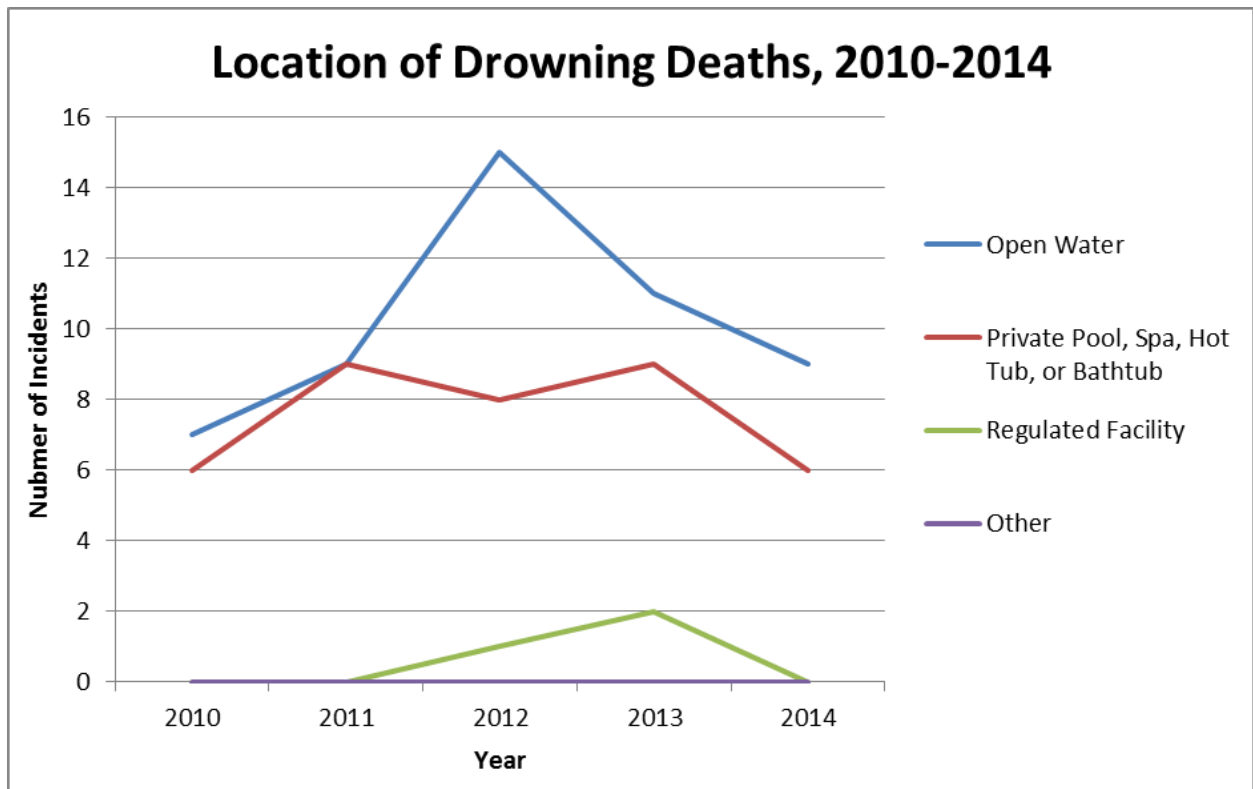


Figure 7. Type of water of preventable drowning deaths, King County, 2010-2014



2014 King County Preventable Drowning Deaths

	Percent	Count
Total	100%	15
Sex		
Male	86.7%	13
Female	13.3%	2
Age		
0-4	0.0%	0
5-14	0.0%	0
15-24	33.3%	5
25-44	6.7%	1
45-64	26.7%	4
>65	33.3%	5
Unknown	0.0%	0
Under age 18	6.7%	1
Race/Ethnicity		
Caucasian	80.0%	12
Asian/Asian-American/Pacific Islander	0.0%	0
African American/African/West Indian	13.3%	2
American Indian/Alaska Native	0.0%	0
Latino/Hispanic	6.7%	1
Multiracial/Other	0.0%	0
Unknown	0.0%	0
Known Immigrant, Foreign Visitor, Non-English Speaker, or Child of Immigrant Parents	0.0%	0
City of Incident		
Seattle	60.0%	9
East King County	13.3%	2
South King County	26.7%	4
Month of Incident		
January/February/March	26.7%	4
April/May/June	13.3%	2
July/August/September	46.7%	7
October/November/December	13.3%	2
Day of the Week		
Weekend	26.7%	4
Weekday	73.3%	11
Time of Incident		
12AM - 6AM	6.7%	1
6:01AM - 12PM	20.0%	3
12:01PM - 6PM	13.3%	2

6:01PM-12AM	46.7%	7
Unknown	0.0%	2

Type of Water

Open Water	60.0%	9
<i>Open water: Rivers</i>	0.0%	0
<i>Open water: Lakes</i>	53.3%	8
<i>Open water: Puget Sound</i>	0.0%	0
<i>Other Open Water</i>	6.7%	1
Private Pool, Spa, Hot Tub, Bathtub	40.0%	6
Regulated Facility	0.0%	0

Alcohol and/or Other Drugs Involved

Alcohol and/or other drugs	46.7%	7
Alcohol and/or other drugs in open water	20.0%	3
Life jacket may have prevented in open water	53.33%	8